

SOCER WEEK

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MIKE MANDALIS, Hakoah St Kilda's dynamic forward, who tried in vain to beat the mighty George Cross at Middle Park on Sunday.



PETER BOURNE swings his right powerful let to boot the ball upfield at Middle Park stadium in the League game against Ringwood City recently.

PETER WAS BORN TO
PLAY SOCCER

By JOHN MARTIN

FEW PLAYERS put so much heart into their game as Peter Bourne, the brilliant South Melbourne Hellas midfielder.

Peter, an Englishman, came to Australia in October, 1971, "just for a look", but liked it so much he decided to stay.

He had played professionally for Burnley and had his knee not caused some trouble, would probably still be playing for this fine English club.

Peter has not only impressed State League fans, but also national coach Rale Rasic.

"At the beginning of the season Rasic wanted to sign me for Pan Hellenic," he told me. "But Hellas wouldn't let me go. I was very disappointed because a player has much better chances of playing for Australia if he plays in Sydney," he said.

But Peter is loyal to Hellas. He says the South Melbourne Club is one of the best in the State League. But club organisation leaves a lot to be desired.

Hill or Keilor," he said. "I am not knocking the players, but there is such a difference in the style of play. The Sydney First Division soccer is so much higher than our game in Victoria. You have to see it to believe it," said Peter.

The 25-year-old

Bourne was literally born to play soccer, having started at a young age when he represented St John's Fisher and Thomas Moore School. When he was 15, Peter was starring with Cole and Nelson Boy's and this is where one of the Burnley scouts spotted him and signed him up.

Peter, who always goes in hard, said he thought his best game was against Cruzeiro when he played for Victoria. "That game brought the best out of me," he said.

He believes there is a great contrast in the style of game played in the top League in Victoria.

"One week we may be playing an international side and the next we are up against a side like Box

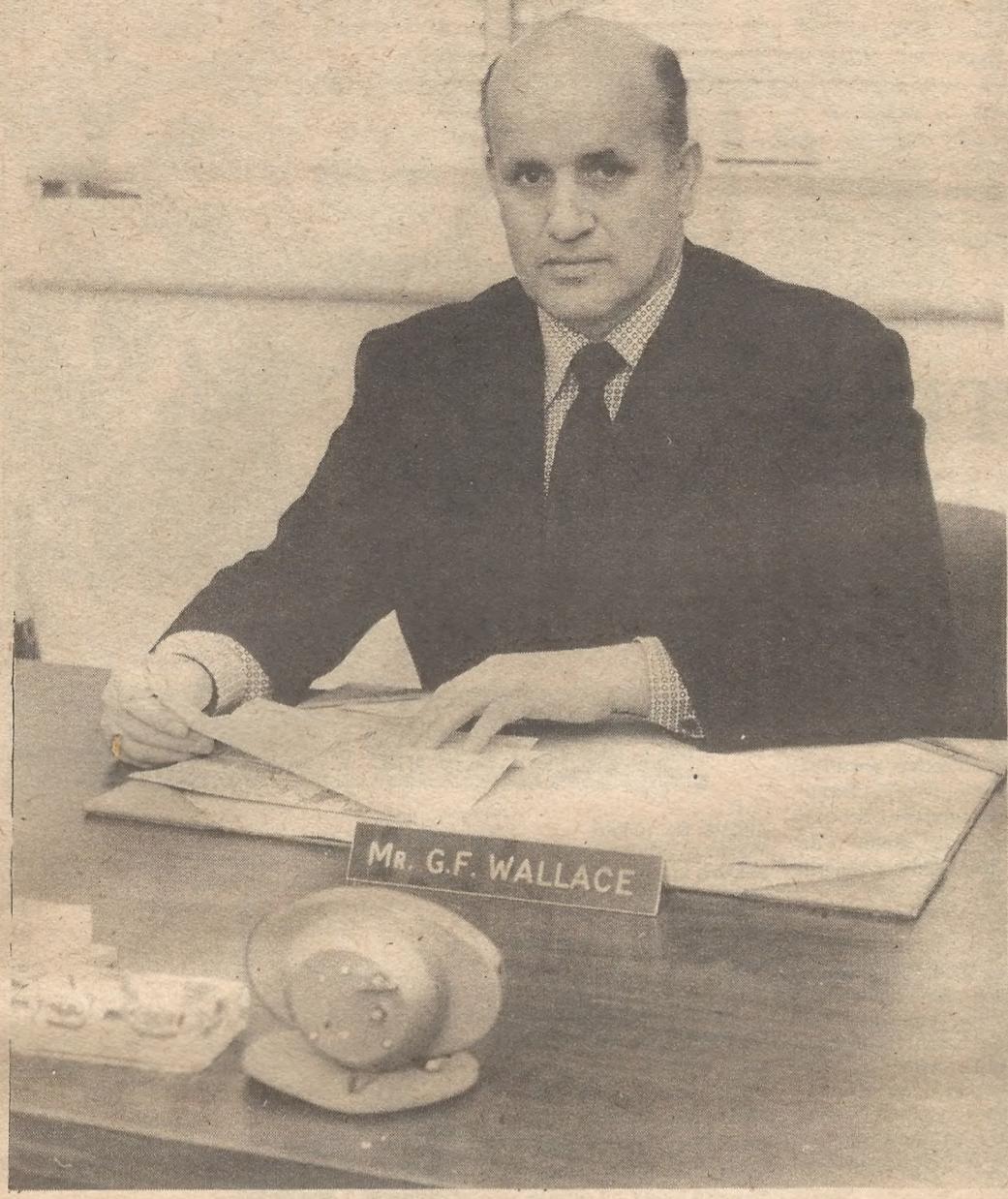
TOP: Jack Reilly (Hakoah), goalie George Cross.

TOP RIGHT: Slavia v Sth Melbourne Hellas.

RIGHT: Mike Mandalis (Hakoah Forward)

BELOW: Paul Murphy (George Cross Forward Centre) takes a can of Courage after scoring two goals for George Cross against Hakoah.





BY GEORGE! — HE'S ONE OF THE BEST

By JOHN MARTIN

THREE YEARS ago when retired Regimental Sergeant-Major George Wallace took up his new position as secretary-manager at Soccer House. He said British migrants were letting the side down.

Most soccer fans agree with him, including yours truly — a Pom from way back.

"The English say soccer is not as skilful here as it was back home, but if these people gave us support and the money through the gates, the standard would improve," said George.

George doesn't mix his words. He's a doer. Nothing is too much trouble for him. If he has something to say, George says it. That is why he's made things tick at Soccer House.

Victorian soccer is fortunate to have a man like George behind the desk at Soccer House. He's a strict disciplinarian and respects his boss — the chairman of the VSF board of management.

George is more than a secretary. He lives the game having been a referee in the army where he served with the Royal Army Ordnance Corps for 24 years.

George is often seen on the grounds on his day off. Recently on a cold Sunday afternoon when he should have been home with his feet up after six working days at soccer, he was watching Hellas play Ringwood City at Middle Park.

George says it shocks him that the Britisher does not retain his love for the game wherever he goes.

"The British migrant comes out here and in a few weeks he's following the Magpies.

"It's like the Chinese system of brainwashing prisoners in the Korean war. The same thing applies in Victoria.

"Even the papers, TV and radio, brainwash the sporting public about Australian rules football.

"But in New South Wales soccer gets a better go. In Victoria soccer seems to be the poor

relation," he says.

But George need not worry much longer about the game in this State. With the great impact the World Cup has made to the sport and the improved coverage in the Press — particularly the Flinders street press, which has always given the game a poor go — things are beginning to look much brighter on the soccer front.

Our former RSM may not have entirely won his fight to put soccer on the map in this rules-ridden city of Melbourne, but he's certainly played his part in promoting it since he took over the secretary's job in Fitzroy Street.

He will certainly find his job much easier next October when Vernon's launch their soccer pools in conjunction with Tat-tersalls.

By George, we could do with a few more Pommy blokes like George Wallace in this game of soccer in Melbourne!

Middle Park: Jack Reilly, Hakoh goalie, lets a ball in from Paul Murphy (George Cross), on Sunday.

* * *



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POST BOX

THE LETTER THEY DIDN'T HAVE THE GUTS TO PRINT

THIS WEEK we publish a very fine letter which was written by John d'Andrea, secretary of Juventus Soccer Club, to the Sporting Editor of the Melbourne Sun.

Mr d'Andrea was so upset when he read a very damaging article about soccer by former Australian rules player, Lou Richards and his "ghost" writer, Tom Prior, that he decided to reply.

Naturally the paper concerned did not have the guts to publish it because it was anti-footy.

Soccer Week believes it is its duty to inform its readers what d'Andrea wrote. Here we publish his letter in full. We leave you to be the judge:

Mr Peter Banfield,
Sporting Editor,
The Sun News Pictorial,
44 Flinders Street,
MELBOURNE. 3000.

SIR: I refer to "Oh, what soccer rubbish! — Footy is still top" story in this morning's 'Sun', page 70, under the by-line of Lou Richards and Tom Prior.

Australia is in the middle of its first-ever appearance in the finals of the World Soccer Cup, where the 16 top national teams get to after an exhaustive elimination series involving over 80 countries, on a home-and-away basis, over 18 months.

This in itself doesn't take anything away from the very popular sport of Australian Rules — but indeed it highlights its parochial and state basis as against soccer being an international sport.

As the Secretary of the Juventus Soccer Club, as a person who has taken a keen interest for over 20 years in the administration and promotion of that sport (I have been the foundation secretary of the Victorian Soccer Federation), as an Australian who encourages his children to take an equal interest in Aussie rules, soccer, cricket and other sports, I take strong exception at the spirit and letter of the article. May I add that over 20 people I have spoken to this morning, mainly Aussie rules supporters, have volunteered the comment that the article is in bad taste to say the least.

Let's face it, if an Australian boy wishes to take up his soccer skill to Hong Kong, Christchurch, Peking, Moscow, Rome, London, Rio de Janeiro, or anywhere else in the wide world, he may do so — he only needs to take his boots with him.

If he chose to do likewise with his Australian Rules skill he would have to be prepared to take with him not only his team mates, but also a spare opposition team, umpires, etc. — a rather expensive exercise at that. Indeed he would find a more understanding audience if he chose to give boomerang throwing exhibitions. Australian soccer in victory or in defeat gets this country the headlines overseas. Can the same be said of footie?

I can understand Lou Richards' concern with the Soccer World Cup coverage taking the spotlight away from VFL football for a few days in four years, with soccer pools promising to be more successful than the now defunct footie-pools, from football direct coverage being knocked off by soccer in one television station, by increasing commercial sponsorship and Government subsidies to the round ball code. Yet some double standards exist when the Sun-Herald organisation salutes in its editorials an 'Australian' team carrying the flag overseas, yet it permits its sporting writers to refer to soccer as 'rubbish'!

Yet the criticism of Australian Rules and suggestions of soccer taking over come from Australian rules writers, not soccer ones; could it be that they have seen the writing on the wall?

The arguments used are so one-sided, illogical and lacking in comparative figures that they do more to harm rather than credit footie.

The pitiful reference to 9534 junior footie players in NSW in 1973, is a laughing matter when compared with the 98,000 registered soccer junior in Sydney.

It is indeed encouraging to see the growing interest in football in schools and junior ranks, but aren't the Aussie rules administrators 20 years behind following the inroads made by soccer in the same fields, not to mention that all footie efforts are split into two major controlling bodies in this country.

The soccer explosion follows years of suppression and sporting racism by media and football administrators and has been encouraged by their

negative attitude.

If you care to contact Mr George Wallace, secretary of the Victorian Soccer Federation, on 94-4304, he can give you the comparative junior and school figures for Sydney and Melbourne.

May I suggest that a much more sporting attitude by Lou Richards and Co., would have been to applaud Australian Socceroos abroad, suggest that upon their return they spend a week-end in Melbourne as guests of the VFL, the racing clubs as well as the Victorian Soccer Federation so that the widest possible range of sportsmen may applaud their efforts, and be patient for an extra few weeks until the VFL gets the headlines again.

— YOURS,
JOHN d'ANDREA

INDUSTRIAL LEAGUE CHATTER

By FRED HABBE

A busy wheeling and dealing went on last week just before the close of the transfer deadline. Standard pulled off the major coup in securing Permit rights for Keilor Austria players, John Truszkowski and Gunther Ganglmaier. This pair should give Standard a deciding advantage over fellow competitors for promotion honors.

Whatever happened to Cadbury? The Candy men after receiving the KING-FORD MERIT AWARD for their fantastic win over Standard only three weeks ago have hit the slumps. Three successive thrashings have moved the side dangerously close to the bottom of the table. Judging on the performance of the side against Siemens last Sunday one can only predict the worst for the Candy-men.

Ron Wallace, Manager of Philip Morris, reckons that he'll field in future only 10-men sides. The reason. Twice his side won after one of its players was sent off, and twice the team lost against 10 men.

Controversial McColl striker Barry Burden walked out of the club last Sunday when asked to play only half a game to give the two newcomers, Michael and

Alex Ristic a chance. Burden who possesses the most powerful shot in the League is slightly off-side. After all, for two away games recently, he didn't even bother to show up. So much for sportsmanship!

John Bally, Australian World Cup squad team manager, when interviewed on GTV9 last Saturday, wouldn't concede weaknesses in the Administration. When asked for his opinion on the comments of some of the World Cup team members that the soccer administration were way behind, Bally stamped these comments as "rubbish". May I remind those that are interested that Bally has publicly stated that the MISL, widely hailed as one of the best organised sporting bodies around, is a "mistake". Should Bally be afraid of a strong administration?



ABOVE: No. 10 Paul Murphy of George Cross.

BELOW: Frank McArdle of George Cross is congratulated after scoring their first goal against Hakoah at Middle Park.

McColl finalised transfer formalities for brothers, Michael and Alex Ristic, both from South Melbourne-Hellas. In their first game for their new club the brothers "Helped" McColl losing their second match this season, which cost the title defenders top spot.

Bowater Scott in a bid to avoid relegation abolished the three-year old rule that company employees only could play for the team. First recruits under the new rule were Bayswater players Ken Rhodes and Phil Dunning. Both players were members of the 1972 MISL champions, Johns Hydraulics. Despite the strengthening of the team the Scotties took a nose dive against Repco Richmond last Sunday, crashing by seven goals to two.



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WITH STEPHEN KALUS

SOCCER IS BOOMING in Victoria's country towns. Attendance at Leongatha's newly-formed soccer club is growing rapidly and there is a move to build a soccer stadium with the help of local businessmen.

In Kilmore the local college has a Soccer team and their sportsmaster, Mr Ray Carroll, is arranging a district interschool competition.

LOOK AT THAT! Two State League **STRIKER** and one of the best forwards in Europe, Wlad Lubanski, was recently operated on by an Austrian specialist and hopes to start playing again at the end of July.

Like Ray Baartz, Lubanski is at the finals in Germany as a guest of the Polish Soccer Federation.

ANOTHER SOCCER school competition will be played next season in Victoria.

Technical Schools have each year a regular tournament and the secretary of the Grammars' Sportsmasters Association Mr Nigel Kendall, announced this week that soccer is getting so popular at those schools that a regular competition is necessary.

THE SOONER Hakoah-St Kilda forgets last Sunday's game against George Cross the better. From the start everything went wrong. After only 10 minutes Phil Hammond, who starred recently for the Blues at full back, was sent off by referee Bob Lamb. In the second half two remaining defenders of Hakoah, David Baker and Akie Waaldyck were injured and had to be replaced by Stephen Sameroff and Joe Katz, respectively.

MICHAEL WEINSTEIN, Chairman of the VSF, had in Germany discussions with Polish officials and also with the coach of the Polish national team, Mr Kaz Gorski.

There are good prospects of closer association between Australia and Poland and a possibility that Poland will tour Australia next season and our Under-23 team may play several games in Poland and other European countries.

VICTORIA'S UNDER-16 team will play three practice games under floodlights at Olympic Park in preparation for the National championship, which will start at the end of August, in Perth.

Manager-coach of the Under-16's, Bill Curran, will announce the team at the end of this week.

CONGRATULATIONS to South Melbourne Hellas! They hit the front of the Rothman's ladder for eight successive weeks. The Greek-sponsored club is

playing attractive attacking soccer and must be considered No. 1 candidate for the flag. Their forward line lead by Jim Armstrong is the most dangerous in the League.

ALTHOUGH last Sunday's clash between George Cross and Hakoah ended with George Cross winning the reserve and main game, Hakoah still levelled the goal average as the Under-16 team beat George Cross 6-2.

JIM BARKER, the Sun soccer writer, is doing a tremendous public relations job for State League clubs. At games where loud speakers are available Jim is always first to keep the spectators informed of progress scores from other grounds and also helps the home teams with other announcements.

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NEGOTIATIONS for a transfer to Sydney for Ian Marshall broke down and the talented Hellas linkman will stay in Victoria for at least one season.

TONY CHARLTON and Morrie Kirby, of GTV9, are doing a mighty job as commentators of the "Match Of The Day" televised each Saturday. But for goodness sake, why can't the State League committee pick up a game which could attract a big crowd.

Last Sunday's crowd pleaser game between top sides Hellas and Slavia should have been transferred to Saturday.

SOCCER GROUNDS and COUNCILS

COUNCIL discrimination against Soccer Clubs, the "Council" will not provide facilities, the "Council" will do nothing for us, these are common enough remarks in Soccer circles.

And yet are "Councils" really the villain of the piece, how much, if at all, do Clubs help themselves.

We of Frankston City could well add our voice to these sort of remarks because, over the years, we have only had taken support from the Frankston City Council, a council hamstrung in its efforts to do something for all sports because of service financial limitations and the rapid growth of the City.

Those who have been to our ground at North Seaford, will know that we have an enclosed ground with a strong inner-rail and a top-class playing surface, and all the council was able to do for us was to provide a levelled area of an old tip, the rest was done by the Club itself.

The enclosure fence, the inner rail, the planting of grass, was all paid for and done by the Club itself.

The ground is maintained by the Club, top-dressed, repaired and reseeded during the close season, and the ground generally tidied - all at the Club's expense.

Because the Club has undertaken these jobs themselves, the excellent Frankston Parks and Gardens Superintendent, Mr Alan Ridley, has been able to use his limited budget for the better

BOBBY McLAUGHLIN, the former State League and Preston Makedonia star, has been signed by third division club Brighton.

Bobby said yesterday he was thrilled to be going to a third division club and his main task was to help coach Joe McLean gain promotion this season.

He was also delighted to be back with his old mate, team manager Les Shorrock. Bobby said the future looked good for Brighton.

PROVISIONAL League results were: Langwarrin d South Dandenong 2-1; Gippslanders Morwell defeated League leaders Geelong 2-1, a good result, as was Werribee's 3-0 win over Central Altona.

Carlton d Melton 2-1, and Fawkner watched by a prominent George Cross Official defeated Nunawading 2-1.

I wonder whom he was eyeing.

Hamlyn Rangers v Frankston Pines 1-2, which means that the Pines are edging towards the top of the table and Rangers remain on seven points near the bottom.

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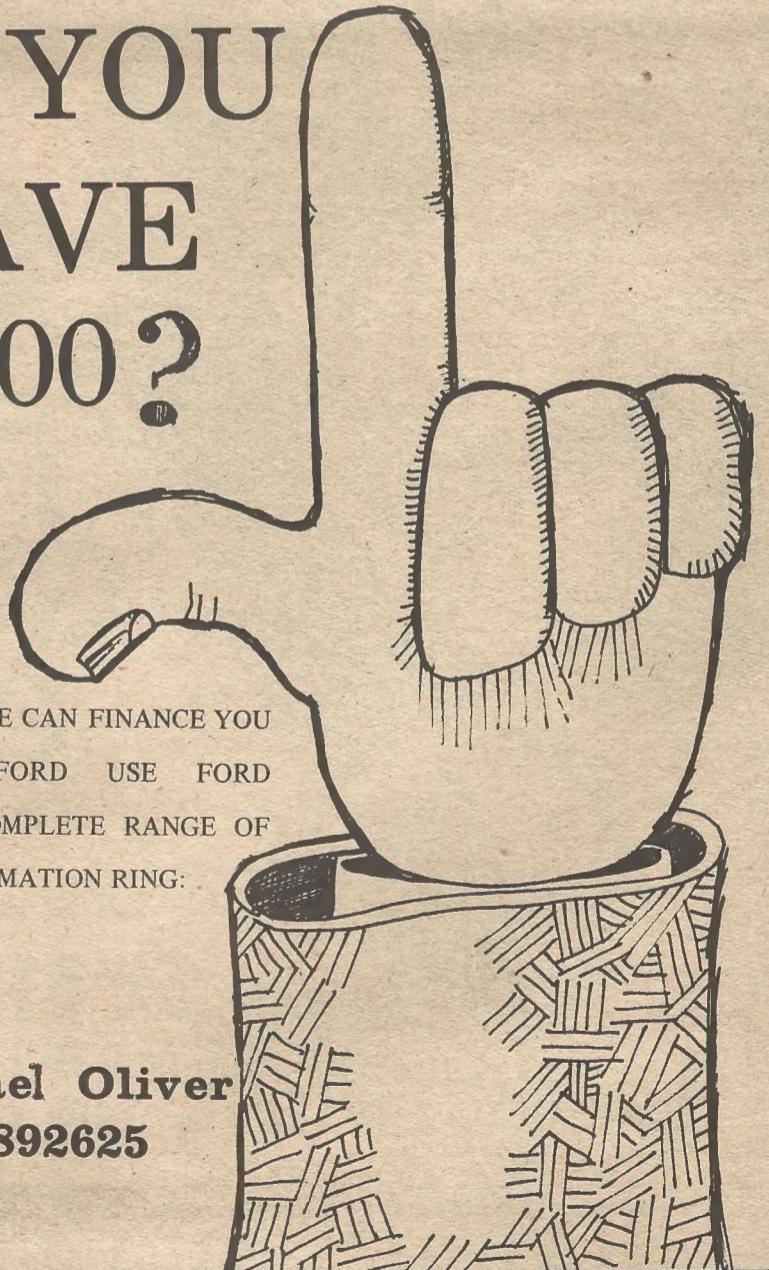
TREVOR (Left): Wears silk/wool checked pants by "Daniel Hechter" of Paris - Price: \$40. Sizes: 2 to 8, with tiger design pure wool sweater - Price: \$20, sizes SM to XOS.

RON (Centre): Wears silver/grey flannel trousers by "Daniel Hechter" with genuine "Harris tweed" sportcoat featuring corduroy shoulder and elbow patches with 1/2-belted back - colors: camel check, brown check - Price: \$60, sizes 36" to 42".

PETER G. (Right): Wears silk/wool Donegal tweed pants by "Daniel Hechter" - colours: Navy, sky blue, rust - Price: \$40, sizes 2 (28" waist) to 8 (40" waist).

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• BILLY VOJTEK

STAR ATTRACTION in State League this weekend will be Billy Vojtek who will make his debut with new club Juventus, against Prahran Slavia, at Olympic Park.

Vojtek, the former Croatia-Sydney striker, Australian and Victorian star player, is expected to bring more fans through the "gates" this season.

He is one of the best forwards in Australia. He's fast, plays attractive attacking soccer and is a delight to watch when on the ball.

Juventus have the job in front of them with a string of defeats and poor displays. Coach Manny Poulakakis is worried about his team and has been working hard on them for this game. He believes Vojtek is the answer to his prayers.

The game will also be seen on GTV9's "Live Soccer" on Saturday, but soccer fans will be anxious to be at the Park to see Vojtek in action in Victoria again.

Melbourne play Mooroolbark United at Middle Park and this could go either way following Melbourne's good win last week.

Hakoah-St Kilda should make amends for their shocking performance against George Cross last Sunday and beat bottom team Keilor on the Schintler Reserve ground, at Footscray.

There will be three games on Sunday. Maribyrnong Polonia play South Melbourne Hellas at Maribyrnong, George Cross play Footscray JUST at Fawkner, and Ringwood City play Fitzroy United at Jubilee Park, Ringwood. There are no games in the City unfortunately.

Most interesting game will be at Fawkner, but pity the crowd if it is wet as there is no cover at Martin Reserve.

George Cross with sharpshooter Paul Murphy at his brilliant best, will give JUST a hard game. ends



LAST week's Victorian Soccer Federation scores:

STATE LEAGUE — Saturday, June 29: Polonia-Maribyrnong 0 v Ringwood City Wilh. 1, R.: 0-1, Maribyrnong Reserve; Fitzroy Utd. Alexander 3 v Keilor Austria 0, R.: 2-1, Olympic Park.

Sunday, June 30: Footscray JUST 1 v Melbourne 2, R.: 2-0, Schintler Reserve; Hakoah St Kilda 0 v George Cross 3, R.: 0-1, Middle Park; Prahran Slavia 0 v South Melbourne Hellas 1, R.: 0-0, Olympic Park; Mooroolbark Utd 2 v Juventus 1, R.: 2-1, Esther Park.

METROPOLITAN LEAGUE: Saturday, June 29 — Division I: Green Gully 1 v Albion Rovers 1, R.: 1-2; Keilor City 1 v Essendon Lions 3, R.: 5-1; Frankston City 0 v Western Suburbs 0, R.: 4-0; Altona City 1 v Box Hill 0, R.: 0-0; Sunshien City 0 v St Albans 0, R.: 1-1.

Sunday, June 30: Preston 6 v Yallourn 0, R.: 2-1.

Division II: Ferntree Gully 0 v Dandenong City 0, R.: 5-0; Waverley City 3 v Princes Park 0, R.: 3-1; North Carlton 4 v Prahran City 2, R.: 3-1; Richmond 1 v Newport 1, R.: 2-1; Springvale City 2 v Croydon City 2, R.: 0-1; Moreland 1 v Ringwood Utd 3, R.: 2-1.

Division III: Eltham 0 v Essendon City 3, R.: 4-2; Coburg 2 v Heidelberg 3, R.: 0-1; Park Rangers 1 v Brighton 1, R.: 0-0; Caulfield City 0 v Chelsea 1, R.: 2-6; Doveton 3 v Ballarat 2, R.: 2-1; Corio 0 v Bayswater 1, R.: 0-3.

Division IV: Moorabbin 0 v East Melbourne 2, R.: 2-0; Rosebud 3 v Broadmeadows City 1, R.: 0-5; Clayton 2 v University of Melbourne 1, R.: 1-0; South Yarra 1 v Monash University 2, R.: 4-1; Doncaster Rovers 0 v Mornington 1, R.: 0-3; Bell Park 1 v Sandringham City 1, R.: 1-1.

FORD FALCONS SWOOP TO CONQUER

The "Ford Falcons" — latest entry in the metropolitan Industrial Soccer League — are sweeping all before them in a bid to win the division cup and automatic promotion in their first year.

Currently the team is sitting pretty in second place with 10 wins and a single loss.

sponsored by the Broadmeadows Plant Social Club and is receiving plenty of support from within the company.

Formation of the 'Ford Falcons' was the brainchild of Anton Lazarenski, the team's secretary.

As Anton said in those early formative days when he perhaps wasn't quite sure of the team's potential: "We are going to train hard to make a good team and we want to progress."

"We don't want to stay a third division team. You never know, we might find ourselves in Olympic Park one day!"

They do train hard and they are progressing. And they don't look like remaining in third division beyond this season.

Olympic Park is their only hurdle. And they don't think it's an impossible jump.

The team is being

PROVISIONAL LEAGUE — Saturday, June 29: Langwarrin 2 v South Dandenong 1, R.: 3-0; Morwell Falcons 2 v Geelong 1, 0-0; Werribee 3 v Central Altona 0, R.: 4-0; Carlton 2 v Melton 1, R.: 0-4; Fawkner 3 v Nunawading 1, R.: 4-3; Hamlyn Rangers 1 v Frankston Pines 2, R.: 0-3.

DISTRICT LEAGUE — Sunday, June 30: North Division: Greensborough v Rosanna 2-0, R.: 6-0; Mitcham v North Melbourne 3-0, R.: 3-2; Bulleen v Latrobe Uni., no report; Thomastown v Diamond Creek 9-1, R.: 9-0.

South Division: Monbulk v North Springvale 2-2, R.: 0-3; Postal Institute v Mordialloc 6-3; Nunawading Utd. v Chadstone 0-1, R.: 1-2; Sandown v North Dandenong 0-1; Toorak v Karingal 0-0, R.: 0-1; Balclava v West Richmond 0-0, R.: 0-0.

East Division: Hawthorn v Hawksburn 0-0; South Oakleigh v Pascoe Vale 0-0; Hightett v Hampton 0-0; Burnley v East Brunswick 0-0; Kew v Corxton 0-0.

West Division: Hotham Utd v North Sunshine, didn't show up; Royal Park bye; Central Brunswick v Williamstown 0-0; Ascot Utd. v Thornbury 5-2, R.: 7-2; Yarraville v East Carlton 0-3; Sunbury Utd v Kensington 5-2, R.: 1-3.

THIRDS COMPETITION — Sunday, June 30: Croydon v Polonia 1-2; Doncaster v University of Melb 0-1; Frankston Pines v Army Apprentices; Doncaster B v Springvale; Melton v Broadmeadows City 0-2.

West Division: Broadmeadows v bye; Univ. of Melb. v Preston A 3-1; Preston B v Moreland; Eltham v RMIT.

Central Division: Richmond v Bayswater; Ferntree Gully v Moorabbin; Waverley 'B' v Brighton; Caulfield City v Croydon.

LEN STONE'S METROPOLITAN GOSSIP

THERE WAS much jubilation in the Essendon Lions camp when they achieved a praiseworthy 3-1 away win over much fancied Keilor City.

Although Keilor were without three of their regular players, Lions played well enough to please their new popular team manager, Rado Vinzina.

Lion's goalkeepers dynamo Jim Ackers had were Alex Napadoski, a goal disallowed. Bill Dacil and Rado Covic.

Keilor's scorer was John Grady.

The win was the right tonic for Lions drive for new membership, which is going well, and there is no doubt about the general upsurge in the club.

Club president Bill Hura, at present overseas at the World Cup, had good news for the Lions when he informed them that he has obtained the services of several prominent overseas players.

As for Keilor City, this was a match that they will want to forget very quickly.

The absence of star player Eddie Klimczak was particularly felt and they were unlucky when they hit the cross-bar twice, but they freely admitted that Lions played a fine game.

Altona's hard-working Publicity officer, Sam Wilson, informed me that their reliable full-back Graig Copley had cause for a double celebration.

His wife Mary gave birth to a lovely baby boy, called Andrew, and he also played more than 100 games for Altona.

"Copley not only is one of the best defenders in the Metro League, but he is also one of the greatest club men in the game," said Sam Wilson proudly.

Preston Makedonia showed a welcome return to top form by defeating luckless Yallourn, who had a player sent off shortly before the end, 6-0 before a big Sunday afternoon crowd.

Yallourn put up a stubborn fight in the first half though being 2-0 at the 45-minute mark.

In the second half Preston's big guns really started to fire, and this was too much for Yallourn, who were not at full strength.

Ian Reid got four goals, two of them penalties, mid-field star MacDonald and new signing from Fitzroy Utd one each.

Incidentally Ron Brown had a fine debut on the left wing for slick Preston.

Altona beat Box Hill 1-0 with a spectacular goal by Doug Barbour in the 56th minute.

Nat Little had a great shot pushed on to the cross-bar by Box Hill goalie Pearce and in the 72nd minute mid-field

COBURG's big rivals in the Third Division Eltham, have a lot of faith in their accomplished defender Arthur Bolton. A referee told me recently that his positional play reminds him of Frankston's David High when he was at his very best with Slavia.

IT'S THE MATCH OF THE YEAR

POPULAR SUNSHINE City official Tony Buxton was quite philosophical about his much-fancied club dropping a point to St Albans.

He said "You can't win them all. St Albans played very well and their goalkeeper Lou Denys was magnificent."

He also praised St Albans tight defence, but he is now looking forward to Saturday's game.

Indeed the Sunshine City v Preston Makedonia match is in Mr Buxton's opinion Metropolitan's First Division match of the year.

I am inclined to agree with him.

Sunshine City expect a big crowd for this game at Gardens Reserve, Anderson Street, Sunshine and every precaution has been made to cope with it and to provide the fans with maximum comfort.

And for the benefit of Makedonia's large following details will be announced over Sunshine City's loudspeaker system, in their own language.

Of course City's loyal supporters won't be neglected either.

It is particularly important for Preston Makedonia, who must win this one, to have any chance of taking out the flag.

Both sides have good players. City will have to watch goal-scorers Ian Reid and Billy McIntyre while Preston will be anxious to curb the brilliant Willy Laing, Jimmy McRoberts and opportunist Frank Mussels.

If I were a Sunshine selector, I would play the gifted Kazi Piotrowski, who was on the reserves bench last week and only came on in the second half.

But whoever Sunshine select for this battle, they will find a strong Preston defence with former Box Hill star John Hagar in goal, Steve Trajanovski and "inform" Albert Harrison, hard to beat.

ST ALBANS twin sweepers Joe Biewer and Rade Nobile are working well together and this gives the Saints added strength and allowing the forwards more latitude in their effort to concentrate on attack. This is a good tactical plan by St Albans, and it is starting to pay dividends.

EVERYONE at Coburg is convinced that dangerous forward Sammy Loughran is following in his illustrious father's footsteps.

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DIVISION III

THE BIG SHOCK in this Division was Eltham's 3-0 loss at home to a superb Essendon City side, determined to climb the ladder. Coburg who were second also lost at home. They were beaten 3-2 by Heidelberg, which from all accounts was a most exciting, sometimes

rugged encounter.

Park Rangers drew 1-1 with Brighton two teams which were once upon-a-time amongst the best and most famous in Victoria. Two more away winners were Bayswater 1-0 at Corio, and Chelsea by the same score 1-0, at Caulfield against Caulfield City. In a very good game Doveton beat Ballarat 3-2.

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Right: Mike Mandalis (Hakoah), centre.

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SOCER GOSSIP

by: Steve Grant

GORDON CAMERON, the former Hakoah St Kilda star, didn't have an unsuccessful tour of New Zealand as we were led to believe in recent newspaper reports.

Cameron had a very interesting season with Eastern Suburbs in Kiwi land and according to him he "enjoyed the experience very much".

He also played in Hong Kong and South Africa and will be remembered for his fine play with the Saints at Middle Park stadium before he crossed the Tasman.

Today he plays with Albion Rovers in Metropolitan League and is "very happy" under the coaching of his old teammate Hugh Murney, another former Hakoah star.

He said going to the Rovers was "one of the best moves" he's ever made.

Gordon said the Rovers have one of the best set-ups in the game and he expects them to make the State League soon. He enjoys playing with John Pride, Tom Clark and Stan Foster, all former British professionals, who have helped to lift the club in recent weeks.

DIVISION II

FRANK WEIMPER, a former Melbourne player and now a GTV9 commentator with Tony Charlton, on the "Live Soccer" session every Saturday, believes Melbourne has the best junior set-up in the State League.

He says they should concentrate on them and not bother about buying players from overseas. If they did this, Frank believes they could soon lift themselves from the bottom of the League.

WESTERN SUBURBS Soccer Club travelled to North Seaford Reserve which was in good condition, for their League game with Frankston City.

They held the home team to a 0-0 draw and the game never reached any great heights, though it kept the crowd on their toes throughout.

Les Smith, at full-back for Frankston, played an outstanding game and they had other fine players in David High, who had a first-class mid-field performance and Graham Clamp was always dangerous on the left wing.

It is difficult to single out any player for Western Suburbs, theirs was a team effort and taking a point of the powerful Frankston team after last week's dismal effort must be pleasing for the hard-working officials from Beachley Reserve.

JACK REILLY, our World Cup and Hakoah St Kilda goalie, gives his tip for the World Cup champions — West Germany. "They are the most professional side I've ever seen; they're tremendously fit, fast and skilled," said Jack when he arrived home from Germany last week.

MOOROOLBARK feel confident they've signed one of the best defenders in Victorian soccer with their capture of Terry Lewis, from Cardiff City, last week.

THE BARKERS also feel they have found the answer to their goalkeeping problems with the signing of Slavia keeper Lou Ivanoff.

TWO PLAYERS from Doncaster Rovers — captain-coach John Reilly and Geoff Clarke — were taken to Box Hill hospital following leg injuries in the game against Mornington last Saturday.

KEILOR AUSTRIA are fighting to save their life in State League with the signing of two Hellas players last week — Steve Gaw and Norm Davie. We wish them luck.

FITZROY UNITED

Alexander put the "great" back into their side for the first 45 minutes against Keilor Austria at Olympic Park on Saturday. But the second half was shocking. Their coach should learn a lesson — never change a winning team. Had Fitzroy retained the side without making changes they could have doubled their score against a team which played spoiling tactics much to the dislike of the Olympic Park and GTV9 fans.

BEARDED Ian "Zorba" Gibson

Gibson has had a left leg injury which has slowed him down a little in front of goal, but he still managed to get one past Keilor's Fred Schul on Saturday. He said after the game his leg hurt when he started to play, but as he warmed up it improved.

DONCASTER ROVERS

lost their first game at home since August 4 last year, when Mornington beat them 1-0 on Saturday. The player who scored against them was Miladin Djovacic.

ever do this again. George Gillian was on the spot ... rushed in ... and Bingo ... the ball was in the net!

IT'S GREAT news for Australia that LKS club from Poland will be here next January. And it's great news for Victoria that the VSF chairman, Mr Michael Weinstein, made all the arrangements for the tour. You can rest assured that the business side of the deal is a good one, at least for the VSF.

SUNSHINE CITY had SAM PAPASAVAS, better pull their socks up if they want to win that golden prize — promotion into State League next year. They've been so close over the years and last season St Albans started the rot which put them out to The Barkers.

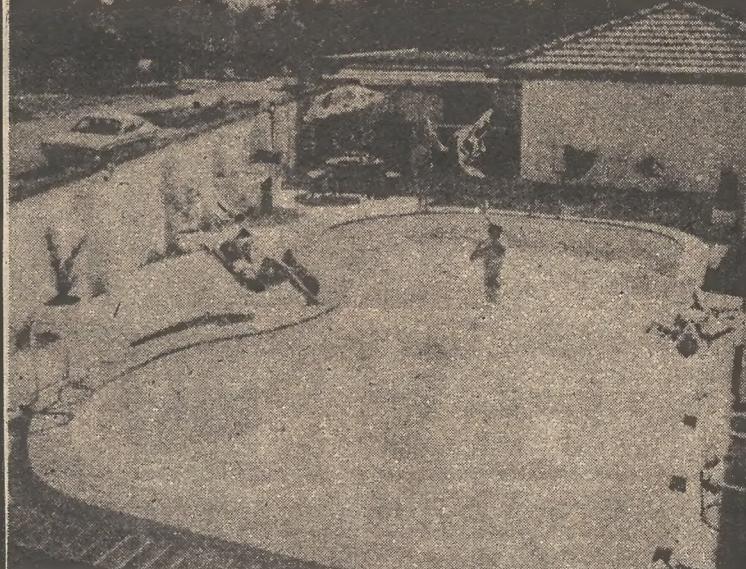
THEY wonder why soccer makes slow progress in Victoria. Last week Fitzroy United Alexander refused to buy Soccer Week. Why? Because Ulysses Kokkinos, the player they sold to South Melbourne Hellas, was on the front page!

BELOW: Fitzroy Alex-Keilor Austria.





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SOCER GOSSIP

FIVE-A-SIDE SOCCER A BIT HIT WITH CLUBS

WHEN YOU look at Frankston City and the State League sides, which took part in the pre-season five-a-side tournament at Footscray, you will note that they looked a fit bunch of players with lots of staying power.

Of course a lot of that can be contributed to the intelligence of their coaches, but it must not be forgotten that this indoors pre-season tournament was a great help.

Five-a-side is really a non-stop game; a type of formula which brings out the best in its exponents, developing quick running, precise passing and individual ball skill. London's famous Arsenal feel that it is the best way to get players fit for a long and strenuous season.

Austrian top clubs Rapid and Austria-Vienna are also great believers in it — apart from the financial gains as this is a popular tournament in Vienna during the winter months when grounds are frozen.

Ajax Amsterdam are Holland's top club and they too feel it helps players to develop the control of the ball. Because the ball is not allowed to go above shoulder height and because the goals are reduced in size, shooting and passing must be along the ground.

Players are allowed to use the walls to beat an opponent with a "wall pass" or play the ball through to a team-mate which makes it a wonderful spectacle.

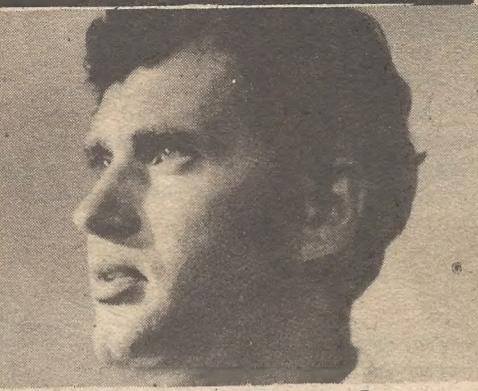
No wonder in European indoor stadiums, this type of soccer is a great success — in fact it also was at the Footscray YMCA and will surely be repeated next year.

It is ideal for TV coverage as was clearly demonstrated on GTV9.

In Europe big money is involved and sponsors are always readily available. Games usually last seven minutes each way.

— LEN STONE

TONY BOGGI, Victorian State coach, has been approached by many clubs to coach them this season. But he, being a true professional in his outlook, told Soccer Week: "It would be suicide for me to take on a club in the middle of the season. I want a team for two months before the season starts. Then it's my responsibility." That should be a good tip for any State League club with a long-range policy for 1975 and the National League.



Rale Rasic

By a SOCCER WEEK reporter

NATIONAL COACH Rale Rasic says only six of the 22-man Australian soccer World Cup squad have any chance of being in the next Cup in 1978.

They are goalkeepers Jim Milsavljiev and Alan Maher, full-backs Harry Williams and Col Curran and possibly Peter Wilson and Adrian Alston.

That is coach Rale Rasic's assessment of the situation in Australian Soccer on the day after the squad arrived back in Sydney.

Although Rasic previously forecast many sackings, this is the first time he has named likely survivors.

"For 1978 I need about 40 players. But where do I find them? It is a frightening prospect," he said.

But he agrees it is also exciting. Technically, of course, Rasic is no longer Australia's coach, but I am convinced he would like the job and he will

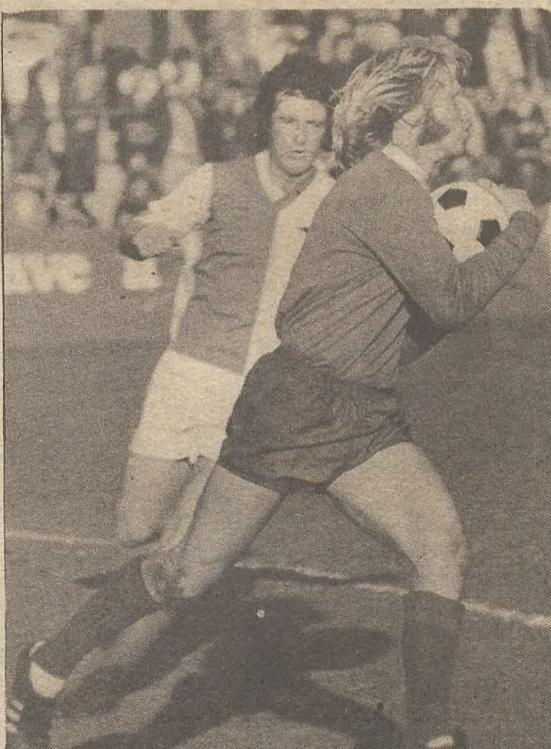
be offered it.

Following the first match in round two, everyone in Germany is talking about Holland and Cruyff.

The Dutchmen are the new Cup favourites. They could hardly be anything else after their slaughter of Argentina in Gelsenkirchen.

The Cruyff-inspired Dutchmen beat a fine Argentinian side 4-1 and it could have been six or seven if chances had been accepted.

The popular tip is a West Germany v Holland final in Munich.



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LEAGUE LEADERS Sunshine City were held to a 0-0 draw by St Albans who surprised with a superb team effort, particularly their magnificent defence.

Although Jimmy McRoberts and Steve Kakovska were in peak form they found the St Albans keeper invincible. In an effort to get the winner, Sunshine City brought on Kasi Piotrowski, but even this talented player could not break the goal drought.

It was an exciting match and holding the top dogs to a draw away from home was a great performance from St Albans and confirms my prediction from last week — that the Saints are on the way back.

GREEN GULLY and Albion Rovers drew 1-1 in an excellent game at the Green Gully Reserve, Keilor Heights Estate. It was pretty even in the first half with neither side being able to score.

Albion Rovers went ahead after 65 minutes through Kevin Walsh. I was told the goal came from a goalmouth scramble and not as a result of one of the dangerous build-ups from Alister McLeod and Ian Cassidy.

Green Gully never gave up and did not allow this set-back to disturb their flow on game. However they had to wait until the last minutes of the game before Ron Little got the equaliser.

DIVISION IV

THE BIG SURPRISE in this Division was Doncaster Rovers 1-0 loss to Mornington and on their home ground as well!

It wasn't the League leaders day. Their captain coach John Reilly

had a hand in the win.

It was a great result for the home side.

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It was a great result for the home side.

It was certainly the Peninsular's day with Rosebud also winning 3-2 against Broadmeadows City. Moorabbin disappointed their loyal band of supporters, going down 2-0 to a clever East Melbourne outfit.

Clayton d Melbourne Uni 2-1 and South Yarra lost at home to Monash University 2-1. Bell Park and Sandringham drew 1-1 in a fast and exciting game, which was in doubt to the very last minutes.

It was a fitting result once again Mario Borg and Boris Driani were stars in the Green Gully line-up.

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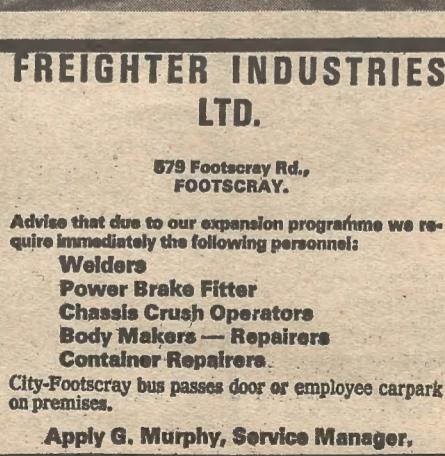
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LEAGUE LADDERS

STATE LEAGUE

	P.	W.	D.	L.	For	Agst	Pts.
SOUTH MELBOURNE	9	6	2	1	21	8	14
PRAHHRAN SLAVIA	9	6	1	12	12	4	13
FITZROY UTD 'A'	9	5	3	1	13	6	13
GEORGE CROSS	9	6	-	21	15	12	12
HAKOAH ST KILDA	9	4	3	2	10	10	11
RINGWOOD CITY 'W'	9	3	2	4	10	13	8
FOOTSCRAY JUST	7	3	1	3	9	10	7
MOOROOLBARK	9	2	3	4	8	15	7
JUVENTUS	8	2	2	4	11	11	6
MELBOURNE	9	2	2	5	18	21	6
POLONIA-M	9	2	1	6	7	10	5
KEILOR AUSTRIA	9	1	-	8	5	22	2

SL RESERVES

	P.	W.	D.	L.	For	Agst	Pts.
GEORGE CROSS	9	6	2	1	18	7	14
RINGWOOD CITY 'W'	9	6	2	1	15	7	14
SOUTH MELBOURNE	9	4	3	1	17	10	11
HAKOAH ST KILDA	9	4	3	3	19	16	10
FOOTSCRAY JUST	7	4	2	2	14	9	8
JUVENTUS	8	3	2	3	11	8	8
MOOROOLBARK	8	3	1	4	17	13	7
FITZROY UTD 'A'	8	3	1	4	12	18	7
POLONIA-M	8	2	2	5	14	20	6
PRAHHRAN SLAVIA	6	2	2	2	7	10	6
KEILOR AUSTRIA	8	1	-	8	7	22	4
MELBOURNE	9	1	-	8	5	22	2

METROPOLITAN LEAGUE — First Division

	P.	W.	D.	L.	For	Agst	Pts.
SUNSHINE CITY	13	9	3	1	26	4	21
ALTONA CITY	13	8	4	1	26	11	20
PRESTON	13	6	6	3	31	10	18
KEILOR CITY	13	7	5	3	31	18	17
FRANKSTON CITY	12	4	5	3	18	15	13
ALBION ROVERS	11	4	3	4	22	18	11
GREEN GULLY	13	3	5	5	16	17	11
WEST. SUBURBS	13	3	3	5	15	27	11
ST ALBANS	13	2	2	6	14	18	9
ESSENDON LIONS	13	3	3	7	18	36	9
BOX HILL	13	2	4	7	9	20	8
YALLOURN	12	1	-	9	8	40	4

ML RESERVES — First Division

	P.	W.	D.	L.	For	Agst	Pts.
SUNSHINE CITY	12	9	2	1	33	11	20
KEILOR CITY	12	7	4	1	26	12	18
ALTONA CITY	11	6	5	1	26	11	17
FRANKSTON CITY	12	7	2	3	23	11	16
PRESTON	12	7	1	4	29	17	15
ALBION ROVERS	10	6	2	2	24	10	14
ST ALBANS	11	5	3	3	15	8	13
BOX HILL	12	3	3	6	18	27	9
WEST. SUBURBS	12	2	2	8	17	38	6
YALLOURN	12	2	1	9	21	40	5
GREEN GULLY	12	2	1	9	11	25	5
ESSENDON LIONS	13	1	2	10	13	46	4

METROPOLITAN LEAGUE — Second Division

	P.	W.	D.	L.	For	Agst	Pts.
WAVERLEY CITY	13	10	1	2	40	19	21
CROYDON CITY	13	8	3	2	28	14	19
PRINCES PARK	13	7	5	1	26	14	19
FERNTREE GULLY	13	5	5	3	29	20	15
RICHMOND	13	3	6	4	19	22	12
NEWPORT	13	3	5	6	15	18	11
PRAHHRAN CITY	13	4	3	6	20	31	11
SPRINGVALE	12	2	4	6	19	23	8
MORELAND	13	2	4	7	18	28	8
RINGWOOD UTD.	12	3	2	7	14	26	7
NORTH CARLTON	13	2	2	9	9	18	6
PRINCES PARK	13	1	2	10	12	38	4

METROPOLITAN LEAGUE — Fourth Division

	P.	W.	D.	L.	For	Agst	Pts.
DONCASTER R	13	10	-	1	41	9	24
CLAYTON	12	8	2	2	36	11	24
MOORABBIN CITY	13	7	3	3	29	17	17
BELL PARK	13	7	3	3	21	12	17
B'MEADOWS CITY	11	7	3	3	18	14	15
E'MELBOURNE	12	6	3	3	27	23	15
MORNINGTON	13	4	4	5	17	25	12
UNI. OF MELBOURNE	13	2	3	2	15	22	8
SOUTH YARRA	13	2	3	8	15	29	7
SANDRINGHAM	13	2	2	1	10	13	5
ROSEBUD	13	2	-	11	11	42	4

ML RESERVES — Fourth Division

	P.	W.	D.	L.	For	Agst	Pts.
DONCASTER R	13	11	-	2	43	16	22
CLAYTON	12	8	2	2	27	10	18
MELBOURNE UNI	12	8	2	2	18	9	18
MOORABBIN CITY	11	8	3	3	36	14	16
B'MEADOWS CITY	13	7	2	4	25	19	16
BELL PARK	10	6	2	2	23	8	14
SANDRINGHAM	12	4	3	6	23	22	12
E'MELBOURNE	13	3	2	8	17	35	8
MORNINGTON	13	1	4	8	14	35	6
SOUTH YARRA	13	2	2	10	12	39	5
ROSEBUD	12	1	1	10	9	35	3

METROPOLITAN LEAGUE — Third Division

	P.	W.	D.	L.	For</
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JACK REILLY, the Hakoah St Kilda and Australian World Cup goalkeeper in action against George Cross, at Middle Park on Sunday. It was not a very happy homecoming for Jack — his team lost 3-0.